

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9527

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CA

SUBJ: CIVAIR: AIR FARES

1. FROM EXTAFF (LABERGE) LAST WEEK WE GOT INDICATION GOC THINKING OF PROPOSING CHANGES IN RATES ARTICLE OF 1966 BILATERAL, BUT NO DETAILS GIVEN US. HOWEVER, OPPORTUNITY AROSE APRIL 20 TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH QUIRT (DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS BRANCH, AIR TRANSPORT COMMITTEE) WHO IS SUPERVISOR OF SULLIVAN (CHIEF, FARES, RATES AND SERVICES DIVISION).

2. QUIRT SAID ATC HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY DISSATISFIED IN PAST YEAR WITH PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF RATE ARTICLE AND EXPECTS TO SEEK DISCUSSION (THROUGH EXTAFF) WITH USG IN WASHINGTON TO REVISE OR CLARIFY. PROBABLY THIS WILL BE DONE IN CONTEXT OF REPLY TO LAST US NOTE (STATE 084986; OTTAWA 1435). MAIN OBJECTIVES PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE (A) EXTEND FROM 15 TO 30 DAYS PERIOD FOR EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION; (B) REQUIRE REASONS BE GIVEN FOR EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION SO THAT OTHER SIDE CAN IMMEDIATELY FOCUS ON WHAT IS OF CONCERN; (C) ESTABLISH SPECIFIC PROCEDURE AS TO HOW DISSATISFACTION IS TO BE EXPRESSED (E.G., DIPLOMATIC NOTE OR OTHER SPECIFIC FORM, POINT OF DELIVERY, ETC.); (D) CLARIFY STEPS TO BE TAKEN SUBSEQUENT TO EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION.

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3. QUIRT ALSO STATED CANADIAN PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR

CARRIERS ON ROUTE IN QUESTION TO ATTEMPT TO AGREE ON FARE LEVEL BEFORE IT BECOMES A GOVERNMENTAL MATTER, BUT HE RECOGNIZES USG WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THIS. HE AGREED TO SUPPLY US WITH COPY OF CANADIAN STANDARD RATE LANGUAGE USED IN ITS BILATERALS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES AND WOULD WELCOME COPY OF OUR STANDARD LANGUAGE FOR THIRD COUNTRIES. HE BELIEVES PRESENT US-CANADIAN FORMULA MAY BE SOMEWHAT UNIQUE.

4. QUIRT FINALLY SAID CANADA WILL PROBABLY WANT TO TALK ABOUT CP AIR'S GIT FARES WHICH WERE SUSPENDED IN FEBRUARY (SEE STATE 051041). ATC HAS NOW LOOKED AT PROPOSAL AND HAS ITS OWN OBJECTIONS. IT IS ENCOURAGING CP AIR TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION WHICH COULD BE REFILED AT CAB WITH GOC SUPPORT.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY RECOMMENDS WASHINGTON WELCOME CANADIAN INITIATIVE WHEN TAKEN. IN PARTICULAR, WE SUGGEST WE SEEK SPECIFIC NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO BE DELIVERED TO LOCAL EMBASSY IN CAPITAL OF COUNTRY WHICH IS EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION (I.E., STATE DEPARTMENT TO CANADIAN EMBASSY OR EXTAFF TO THIS EMBASSY). WHETHER THE 15-DAY PERIOD IS CHANGED OR NOT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PROBLEMS OF TIMELINESS AND WE BELIEVE THESE CAN BEST BE MET BY LOCAL DELIVERY. ENDERS

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